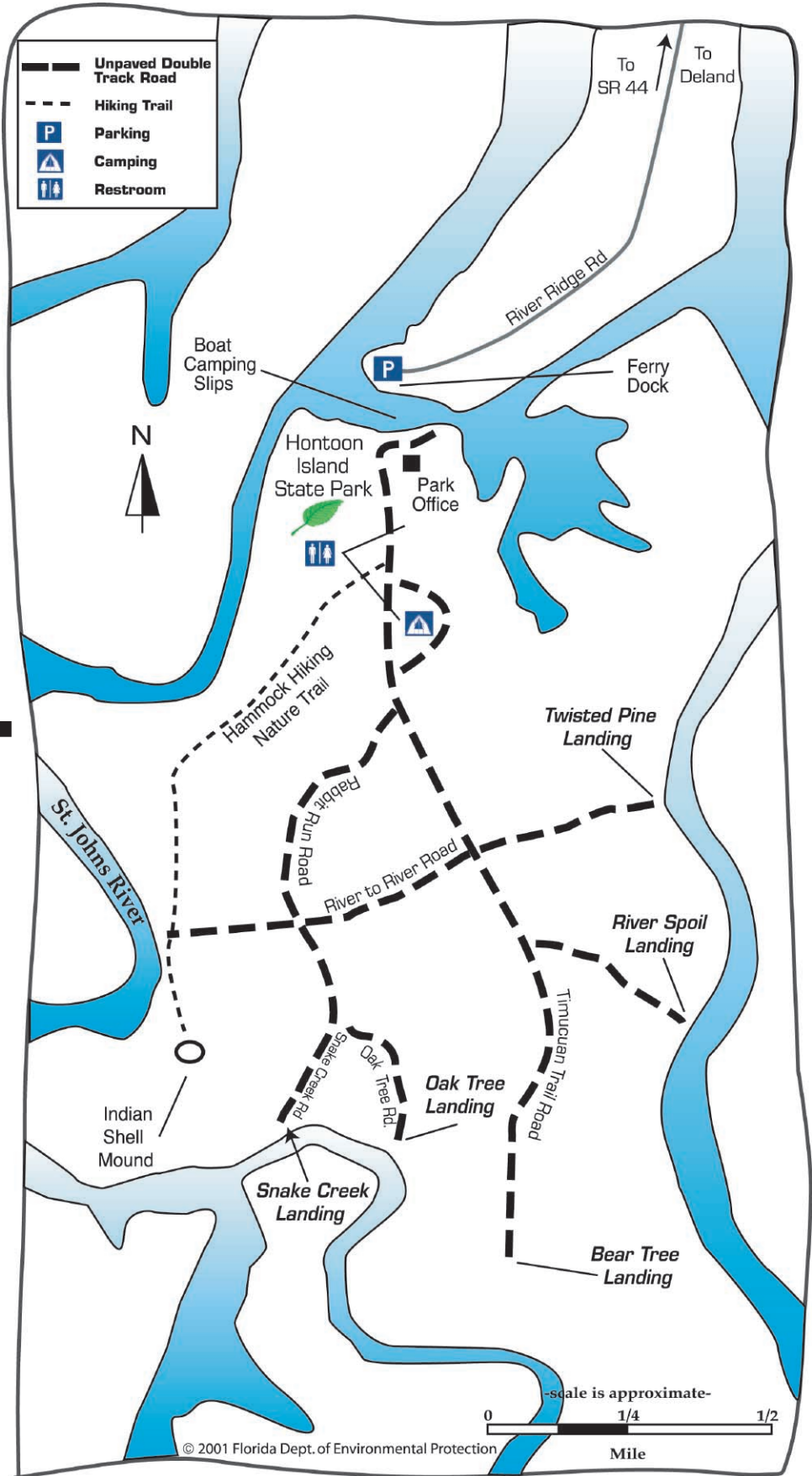


Trails at Hontoon Island State Park

The trails at Hontoon Island State Park are relatively short but make for a pleasant hike or ride. The park is an island in the middle of the St. Johns River, Florida's longest river. The Timucuan Indians were the first inhabitants of Hontoon Island. Evidence of their presence can be seen by the large shell mounds that still exist. Snails gathered from the shallows of the St. Johns River were a staple food of the Timucuan. The discarded shells accumulated over time to form the mounds, one of which can be seen at the end of the Hammock Hiking Nature Trail.



Trails at Hontoon Island State Park

Major Activities: Hiking, Mountain Biking

Trail Length/Surface: 6.0 miles for dirt double track; approximately 3 miles (roundtrip) for unpaved hiking

Fee: Park Admission

County: Volusia

Nearby Towns: DeLand

Notes:

No private vehicles are permitted on the island. The park is reached via a ferry that runs every few minutes and is free (you still need to pay park admission once you reach the island). Only people and bicycles are permitted on the ferry. The park can be reached by private boat as well.

Hammock Hiking Nature Trail offers an approximately 3-mile round trip to the large Indian shell mound at the southwest corner of the island. Allow 2 1/2 hours for a leisurely walk.

The main double track trails begin after you pass the campground.

Access/Directions:

From DeLand, take SR 44 west. Bare left on Old New York Avenue, turn left on Hontoon Road, and turn left onto River Ridge Road and continue to the parking area for the park and the ferry launch.

Related Websites:

Florida State Parks (<http://www.floridastateparks.org>)



Contact Information:
Hontoon Island State Park
2309 River Ridge Road
DeLand, FL 32720
(386) 736-5309
(<http://www.floridastateparks.org/district3/hontoonisland>)



www.floridagreenwaysandtrails.org